

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Marathon City School District is committed and dedicated to the task of providing the best education possible for every child in the district for as long as the student can benefit from attendance and the student's conduct is compatible with the welfare of the entire student body. The right of the student to be admitted to school and to participate fully in curricular, extracurricular, student services, recreational or other programs or activities shall not be abridged or impaired because of a student's sex, race, religion, national origin, color, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability or handicap.

This policy also prohibits discrimination as defined by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, (race, national origin, color), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (sex), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (handicap) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (disability).

All students, regardless of sex, shall have comparable facilities for locker rooms, showers, toilets and any other educational facility. This includes comparable space, number of lockers, showers and other locker room facilities.

Children of homeless individuals and unaccompanied homeless youth (youth not in the physical custody of a parent/guardian) residing in the district shall have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including comparable services, as provided to other children and youth who reside in the district. Homeless children and youth shall not be required to attend a separate school or program for homeless children and shall not be stigmatized by school personnel

Students who have been identified as having a handicap or disability, under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, shall be provided with reasonable accommodations in educational services or programs. Students may be considered handicapped or disabled under this policy even if they are not covered under the district's special education policies and procedures.

The district shall also provide for the reasonable accommodation of a student's sincerely held religious beliefs with regard to examinations and other academic requirements. Requests for accommodations shall be made in writing and approved by the building principal. Accommodations may include, but not necessarily be limited to, exclusion from participation in an activity, alternative assignments, released time from school to participate in religious activities and opportunities to make up work missed due to religious observances. Any accommodations granted under this policy shall be provided to students without prejudicial effect.

It shall be the responsibility of the District Administrator to examine existing policies and develop new policies where needed to ensure that the Marathon City School District does not discriminate pursuant to federal and state law. The District Administrator shall ensure that an employee is designated annually to receive complaints filed under federal and state law. That employee shall assure adoption of a complaint procedure to resolve complaints alleging violation of these laws, assure that an evaluation of the district's compliance with state law is completed as required and that the proper forms are submitted to the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) as required.

The Marathon City School District shall implement specific and continuing steps to notify applicants for admission, students, and parents/guardians of elementary and secondary students and employees that the district does not discriminate on the basis of the factors listed above. Such notification shall contain pertinent information and be made in such a manner as necessary to apprise such persons of the protections

against discrimination assured students by federal and state law and that inquiries concerning the application of federal and state law by the district may be referred to the District Administrator or to the Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education. Such notification shall be made through publication in the Record Review (published in Abbotsford, WI), memorandums to employees and students, letters or bulletins to parents/guardians, notices posted in the school and administrative offices and announcements by school administrators. Notification shall include the name, office address and telephone number of the employee or employees designated as responsible for carrying out provisions of federal and state law. In addition, a student nondiscrimination statement shall be included on student and staff handbooks, course selection handbooks and other published materials distributed to the public describing school activities and opportunities.

The Marathon City School District shall conduct an annual self-evaluation. The self-evaluation shall examine the district's current nondiscrimination policies and practices and efforts concerning the treatment of students. The self-evaluation shall be made by a committee including such personnel as school administrators, school board members, teachers, parents/guardians and students. The information revealed by the self-evaluation shall be used to modify any policies and/or practices which do not meet the requirements and intentions of federal and state laws pertaining to discriminatory issues.

LEGAL REF.: Section 118.13 Wisconsin Statutes
 PI 9, Wisconsin Administrative Code
 PI 41
 Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972
 Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964
 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
 Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
 Civil Rights Act of 1991
 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

CROSS REF.: Board Rule 411, Discrimination Complaint Procedures
 342.1, Programs for Children with Disabilities

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